

Leicester, Thursday June 9. 1842.

My dear Si - cousin & friend & brother -

I write to stir up your mind by way of remembrance ^{the meeting of} of our County Antislavery Society - to be held here on the 28th inst. I am particularly desirous that you should be ^{at that meeting} here, if it is a possible thing, and I wish you would so arrange it as to bring Cousin Lucretia with you and any of the children you can. - Already I have had some little difficulty with relation to this meeting; but having kept cool, and steered straight ahead, without yielding aught of what I thought right and reasonable, I have thus far done better than at one time I feared I should. - I applied ^{to the Committee} for the use of our Meeting house for the meeting of the A.S. Society. - I thought best to make this formal application, because the house, some time since, had been refused for an Antislavery purpose. The Committee, unwilling to 'take the responsibility', called a meeting of Proprietors - which was held last Saturday evening. They sent an invitation to me to be present with them.

I went, and reasoned the matter with them for more than an hour, on the ground of great Unitarian and Protestant principles, and showed them that consistency with their own avowed principles required of them to pursue a tolerant, liberal course - sustaining others in the exercise of their liberty, as they desired to be sustained in theirs. On taking the vote, all but Capt. Southgate voted in favor of granting the use of the house as I had requested - and he ~~would~~ ^{did} not vote against it. But his vie is great, and greatest of all because he finds he is "deserted", as he calls it, by the other proprietors. If any thing ever ruins our Society, it will be the everlasting concessions ^{required} to be made to Capt. S.. For one I am determined (and have been determined, for 6 years at least) not to yield points of duty & conscience to him, - nor, I should hope, to any man. I did not cease to be an Abolitionist, years ago, to please my own Father; "I guess" I won't now, to please Capt. Southgate.

I hope you will be able to 'come over & help us' at that time. A part, at least, of your expenses

shall be paid from our Treasury, if you desire - I mean if you come on purpose. If it would conduce to this desirable end to have an exchange with me the Sunday previous - i.e. the 26th, it shall be so arranged. Let me soon hear from you.

The Christian Register in noticing the "Amory Hall Meeting" has not the most distant hint that any protest was uttered against leaguings ourselves with Southern Slavery in our Church connections. It states that Rev. S. J. May, Dr. Bowditch, &c. spoke approving the objects of the meeting. Isn't that a lie, where ^{some} truth is suppressed and only a part stated? It is in my Code. The Register's account is deceptive.

S. Fairbanks ought to be rebuked for his "firebrand" remark. Is it, in God's name, a "firebrand" to suggest that 2½ millions of our fellowmen, "for whom Christ died" have claims on us, religious claims on us, as a denomination? "In as much as ye did it not unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye did it not to me." With love to Cousin L., John Edw. and all, Yours most truly, Saml. May.



Rev. Sam^l. J. May.

South-Scituate.

(Mass.)

Sam^l. J. May
June 9. 1842